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REMARKS

In the Office Action dated April 25, 2005, claims 1-20 are pending. Claims 1, 13, and 17 are independent claims from which all other claims depend therefrom. Claims 1, 7, 13, and 17 are herein amended. Note that claims 1, 7, 13, and 17 are not amended for patentability reasons. Applicants recognize the allowability of claims 3-6, 8, 11-12, and 18-20 if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. However, Applicants submit and believe that since claims 1, 13, and 17 are now in allowable form that claims 3-6, 8, 11-12, and 18-20 are also allowable as originally drafted.

The Office Action states that claims 1-2, 7, 10, 13-15, and 17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by either Bell (U.S. Pat. No. 6,105,839) or Liao (U.S. Pat. No. 6,439,443 B1).

Amended claim 1 recites the limitation of a seat system vibration absorbing flexible extension member. The Office Action admittedly states that both Bell and Liao fail to disclose the function of Applicants suspended vibration absorbing system, as originally claimed. Applicants submit that not only do both references fail to disclose the recited functions, they also more specifically, fail to disclose a device that performs the stated functions. Bell discloses a seat back carrier that hangs from headrest posts. A hanging carrier clearly does not absorb vibrational energy of or within a seat system. Liao discloses a hanging bag. A hanging bag also clearly does not absorb vibrational energy within a seat system.

In order for a reference to anticipate a claim the reference must teach or suggest each and every element of that claim, see MPEP 2131 and *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628. Thus, since each and every element of claim 1 is not taught or suggested by Bell or Liao, Applicants submit that claim 1 is novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance.

Amended claim 13 recites the limitations of a housing and a flexible member at least partially contained within the housing. Note that these limitations are similar to allowable claim 2. Since both Bell and Liao fail to teach

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or suggest the stated limitations, claim 13 is also novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance.

Amended claim 17 recites the limitations of designing a tuned vibration absorbing system having a flexible extension member and a seat system vibration absorbing suspended element that absorbs vibration within a seat system. As stated above, both Bell and Liao fail to teach or suggest a device that performs the seat system vibration absorbing features claimed, and as such they both clearly fail to teach or suggest the limitations of a seat system vibration absorbing suspended element and any method limitations including the same. Therefore, claim 17 is also novel, nonobvious, and is in a condition for allowance.

Since claims 2, 7, 10, and 14-15 depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively, they are also novel, nonobvious, and are in a condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.

Claims 9 and 16 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Bell or Liao.

Since claims 9 and 16 depend from claims 1 and 13, respectively, they are also novel, nonobvious, and are in a condition for allowance for at least the same reasons.

In light of the amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all of the objections and rejections are now overcome. The Applicants have added no new matter to the application by these amendments. The application is now in condition for allowance and expeditious notice thereof is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

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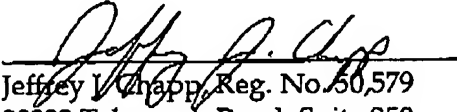
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 50-0476.

Respectfully submitted,

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